



Tippecanoe County GIS Policy Committee Meeting January 24, 2006

The *GIS* Policy Committee members met January 24th at 9:30 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room of the Tippecanoe County Office Building. Mr. Steve Murray called the meeting to order.

County Employees present

County Surveyor Steve Murray, County Council member Kevin Underwood, Highway Director Opal Kuhl, GIS Administrator Khalid Hasan, APC Director Sallie Fahey, County Assessor Nancy Moore, Executive director of MITS Diane Hawkins, Plat Book Supervisor Gini Tull, County Commissioner John Knoechel, Trent Pell GIS Specialist, Mike Spencer, Jim Jones, Cinde Shockey recording secretary.

AGENDA

- 1. 2005 Achievements – 2006 Goals: Activity by Department**
- 2. Zoning Layer: update**
- 3. Census Bureau: Request for County GIS data**
- 4. 2005 Color Ortho project: update**
- 5. New Electronic/GIS Data Products and Services Ordinance**
- 6. Others**

2005 Achievements – 2006 Goals: Activity by Department

Steve Murray calls the meeting to order. He would like to discuss the first item and have the departments talk about their 2005 achievements and discuss possible 2006 goals.

Surveyor

He says the Surveyor's office worked on a project using GIS and saved \$30,000.00 since the work was done in-house rather than contracted out. They created an analysis of the impervious areas inside the MS4 boundary and outside the limits of the various cities. 15,804 parcels were checked for asphalt, concrete, rooftop, gravel, grass, tilled and wooded acres. This was a 6 month project. Surveyor's office all worked on updating their county drain layer. This layer will hopefully be on the web site in the future to assist local Surveyors with locating regulated drains, waterways, etc. This information has been used to determine who is assessed for watersheds and create profiles for tile and ditch job projects. For 2006 they plan to continue to improve the drain layer and make it accessible on the website and also work on the next phase of the storm water utility district.

APC

APC has been making daily use of the GIS system. Their planners use the site when they meet with customers. The land use and zoning work that is being done in the McAllister neighborhood has been done using GIS data. The entire office has been trained and is working with Bentley Redline. Krista Trout-Edwards used GIS in combination with HAZUS to work on the multi-hazard mitigation plan. The HAZUS program wasn't as helpful as they had hoped it would be so that approach was eventually abandoned. Goals for 2006 are to continue making it part of their daily operations. Doug has also been working on precinct maps for the new precincts. He will have an individual letter sized map for each precinct. Once they are adopted they will be put on the website.

Highway

Opal has 2 current projects which are using GIS. Gatsby inventory which Mindy is finishing up so Capital Asset is almost complete. A road inventory which is being re-driven by Mike Parks and Tom Ketterer and doing an inventory. Opal says that GIS saves them a lot of driving time. For 2006 she has plans to work on impervious areas.

Assessor

Khalid added sales disclosures for the Assessors so they can get ratio on assessed value versus sale price. Nancy would like to see the information updated sooner. Nancy is hoping to get the house numbering put on the website for them to use. Khalid says that since it is voluntary data some of the information is being removed before submission. Nancy says the Assessor's have been receiving permits without addresses and then they have to guess at the plat. She would like to see the addressing information be more accessible. Subdivision lots are using the parent tract rather than the number for that individual lot. Nancy doesn't think that Building Commission is requiring them to have the actual lot address. Steve says that he thinks it's time to work with Building Permits to bring them online.

MITS

Public safety data has been recently revised including fire, emergency management, TEMA, law enforcement. These entities were previously using Tiger data and they are now using data that is consistent with our data. GIS program started with originally 7 layers and now there are more than 70+ layers. Steve asks if we should be trying to combine some of the layers or if these layers are sub-layers of the main layers. Sallie asks if setbacks are being shown for new subdivisions. Khalid's reply is that all new plats that come in we are trying to pull as much information as possible including setbacks.

Zoning Layer: update

Sallie has hired a contract employee who is working in the GIS department to update the zoning layer. John Thomas is supervising the data quality. They have a 45 day pilot project they are working on with 4 different kinds of zoning areas and data. One is rural one is, one is urban, one is an urbanizing area, and one is a small town. McAllister is being used for the urban area. An urban area is a portion of Wabash township west of West Lafayette, Stockwell is the small town, and Wayne township for the rural area. This will be to figure out what needs to be done to transfer the existing maps to GIS. Larry will also be drafting a procedural manual from the pilot project. Sallie expects it to take a year. Sallie had also asked for a program which would allow them to draft a legal description. Don Lamb found the software and training will begin on Friday. Sallie also thinks this will be a useful tool for Building Permit Department. This will allow them to also create a scaled drawing for planning.

Census Bureau: Request for County GIS data

Khalid emailed everyone about this request for data. They have been requesting the data since 2002. They are trying to improve the accuracy of this data which is around 7.5 meters. Our data accuracy is around two and a half feet. They would like to have local updates so they can improve their data. There are several options. Just give them the data without any signed documents which is what some counties may be doing. We could also use our standard data disclaimer which would have to go through their legal department. We can also use one of their templates to outline how we are sharing this data. March 2006 is the deadline to submit. Any information given to them will be manipulated a little bit so if there are known problems with our data we need to be aware of that fact. Do we want to share our data and how do we want to share it? Do we want to improve the known issues with our data first?

This data will become public information. This may deter data sales. Diane interrupts to say that she wasn't aware that they would ever use the parcel lines so why would they ever post that data. They might need to have the data to so they can figure out the blocks but they don't currently post that data so why would they do it now. Khalid says they will not need the topography. They have asked for parcel data but they won't be selling the data. Diane says that she thinks they only currently give out the tiger lines and census tracts. She would like to know if they plan to change that policy in the future. Diane asks which part of the data they would be giving out for free. Hydrography, precincts, streets and lines, zip codes. Diane makes the point that if we give them the current data we will still have the most current data and we will have the new orthos coming. Khalid's concern is with the calls he receives from contractors who want the data for profitable purposes. These companies are using census data anyway but would be most interested in the parcel data. Diane states that she doesn't have any concerns with giving them the data. Sallie is concerned with giving them the most current data. Steve thinks himself, Sallie, Khalid and Diane should sit down and discuss this further.

2005 Color Ortho project: update

Steve says he has received word that we should have the new orthos in about 2 weeks. The data is coming in better accuracy than anticipated. We do not get contours with the data but we will have to hire Woolpert or another contractor to update the contours if we need them. The contours we have are based on the 2002 fly over so in some areas the contours will be outdated. This is why they are asking for digital submission with as-builts. We could potentially update the contours from this information.

New Electronic/GIS Data Products and Services Ordinance

Diane tells the committee that the new ordinance went into effect in January. It brought the price down to around \$300 per layer. It's slightly under \$5,000.00 to buy the whole county. Other departments can spread the word that the data price has dropped significantly.

Others

Sallie would like to address a point she missed in the discussion about achievements and goals. The community technical partners project with FEMA for flood plains is moving along. Khalid provided the necessary information to FEMA's contractor and they are working on it. Sallie is hoping this will finish up close to the Zoning layer and this information will get dropped in with the Zoning layer.

Sallie would also like to know about the status of the Digital submission layer. Steve says his office has been extremely busy with PhaseII and he hopes to pick it back up and get it moving again soon. He has discussed it with the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors, and the GISLIS Harn committee at length and no one felt that requesting the surveyors to submit data is unreasonable. There are still a few questions in the air about how data should be submitted and what format etc. Sallie would like sketch plan, preliminary plats, and construction plans submitted as well. At this time that is not included in the ordinance. Diane has money in a fund to have a study done in the future to help us figure out which direction we need to head with digital submissions. Sallie would like to go ahead with the digital ordinance so we are getting the recorded information and then we can amend it later to improve the type of data we are receiving. Gini says compliance is better with subdivision data than survey information.

GIS will meet again on the 22nd of February.

Reminder:

Gis Conference is coming up in March in Indianapolis